



Ocotillo

Weekly Update

A newsletter for the residents of Glendale's Ocotillo District



Councilmember Norma Alvarez

April 15, 2011



The Great American Cleanup.

The city of Glendale will participate in the Great American Cleanup, the nation's largest community improvement program. Sponsored by Keep America Beautiful, this program takes place annually March through May. Nationwide the program involves an estimated 2.8 million volunteers who help beautify parks and recreation areas, clean waterways, pick up litter, and plant trees and flowers.

If you would like to volunteer to help clean up Glendale neighborhoods and parks, contact the city of Glendale Community Volunteer Program at 623- 930-2915 or email awilkie@glendaleaz.com by Monday, April 18.

Two other short-term projects giving residents the opportunity to get involved are coming up soon, they are: Make Earth Day Everyday, Saturday, April 30 and Join Hands Day, Saturday, May 7. Visit www.glendaleaz.com for more information.

Council Appoints Residents to Advisory Groups. The Glendale City Council has appointed several residents to serve on advisory boards and commissions.

Congratulations and many thanks to the following Ocotillo District neighbors who have volunteered to serve: John Geurs and Rebecca Ontiveros, Citizens Advisory Commission on Neighborhoods; Manuel Padia, Jr., Citizens Transportation Oversight Commission; Bernadette Bolognini, Library Advisory Board; and Rod Williams, Planning Commission.

Residents can request an application to serve on a citizen advisory group or obtain more information by calling the Council Office at 623-930-2249 or visiting www.glendaleaz.com/boardsandcommissions.

Traffic Restriction at 59th and Northern Avenues. A traffic restriction at the intersection of 59th and Northern avenues began this week for the replacement of a Southwest Gas pipe.

During construction of the North side of the intersection, traffic on Northern Ave. will be reduced to a single lane in both directions approaching the intersection and traffic on 59th Ave. will be reduced to a single lane heading south and two lanes heading north.

The contractor will be working between approximately 6 a.m. and 6 p.m., but traffic barricades will remain up 24 hours a day. An off-duty police officer will control the intersection signal lights during construction hours.

The first half of the project is scheduled to be complete by April 30, then work on the south half of Northern Avenue will begin. The project is estimated to be completed by May 20.

For more information on this construction project, call 623-878-9115, or after hours call 602-768-5028. Up-to-date information on Glendale construction projects is also available online at www.glendaleaz.com/improvements.

Shred It & Forget It. The thought of someone stealing something tangible from you is frightening. The thought of someone stealing your identity can be even more so. The fact is, should someone steal your identity, its after-effects can haunt you for years to come. It's truly devastating. Often times, the victims of identity theft don't even know their personal information has been compromised until it's too late. There are a variety of ways you can protect yourself:

- Do not disclose personal information to strangers via the Internet, telephone, applications or through the mail unless you initiated the contact.
- Order a copy of your credit report from each of the three credit bureaus once a year.
- Install firewall and anti-virus software on all your computers.
- Never leave outgoing mail in your mailbox, especially with checks enclosed.
- Pay attention to your bank and credit card statements and examine the activity for unauthorized charges.
- Limit the items you carry with you, for example don't carry your Social Security card.
- "Shred It & Forget It"



Glendale's Community Action Teams are proud to partner with the Target Corporation and Cintas Document Management Company to offer free document shredding to the community to help combat identity theft. Credit card offers, tax returns, medical bills and old bank statements should be shredded rather than simply thrown in the trash. The "Shred It & Forget It" events scheduled throughout the year offer a fast, convenient, drive-thru service where you can bring up to three standard-size file boxes of documents for secure shredding. The next event is Saturday, April 30th at the Target located at 10404 N 43rd Avenue from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. or until the shred trucks are full. For more information on identity theft and "Shred It & Forget It," call (623) 930-2571.

Sahuaro Ranch Park Sports Complex Renovations. The city of Glendale will be reopening the sports complex at Sahuaro Ranch Park, 63rd Avenue and Mountain View Road, with a ceremony at 9 a.m., Saturday, April 16. The facility has been closed since last fall while it received a facelift and renovations.

The public is invited to attend the ceremony where Glendale's Vice Mayor Steven Frate and other dignitaries will speak and throw the "first pitch." Once the ceremony is over a girls fast-pitch tournament will begin with all fields of the complex in play.

The renovations and redesign of the sports complex focused on the lack of shade; opportunities for "green" improvements; and efficiencies in electrical, water and other costs. The design added two multi-purpose fields to the original ball field design to support youth soccer, football and other organized activities. The new design increases comfort and capacity of the seating areas for viewing events and the fields are now completely handicapped accessible.

The sports complex was originally constructed in 1986 — this year marks the 25th anniversary. Approximately 72,000 games have been played at the complex since it opened.

Around Town

[Click here](#) for the City Council meeting schedule. [Click here](#) for past Council meeting agendas and minutes. [Click here](#) to watch a City Council meeting online.

Live at the Library. Join us for one of the West Valley's most popular monthly musical series – Live at the Library. The series is held on the fourth Thursday of the month and begins at 6:30 p.m., at the Glendale Main Library, 5959 W. Brown St. On April 28, Young Sounds of Arizona, composed entirely of middle school and high school age students, presents "The Magic of Jazz, the Freshness of Youth" for an unforgettable evening of jazz music. For more information, call 623-930-3573.

Mastering the Purchasing Maze Purchasing Fair. Small, minority and women-owned businesses – this is your opportunity to visit with 50 governmental agencies and 50 businesses all ready to talk! Join us from 8-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 26 at the Glendale Civic Center, 5750 W. Glenn Drive. [Click here](#) for more information.

Sahuaro Ranch Family Campout - April 29 through April 30. Experience an evening sleeping under the stars at the Ranch. Activities include star gazing, a "Promoting Environmental Awareness in Kids" program, interpretive talks with real wildlife, kids camp crafts and games, campfire entertainment and more! Catered gourmet dinner and breakfast. Reserve your SPACE today! \$29 (Non-resident \$34). Ages 3 and under, free. To sign up, [click here](#).

National Take Back Day. The Glendale Police Department is coordinating a one-day collaborative effort with the Drug Enforcement Administration to remove potentially dangerous prescription drugs from our nation's homes. The "National Take Back Initiative Day" will be on Saturday, April 30th at **two** Glendale locations! We will be at the Target parking lot at 10404 North 43rd Ave. (Peoria & 43rd) and in the parking lot at Cabela's at 9830 West Glendale Ave. Glendale's collection sites will be available from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. This is an opportunity for residents to safely and conveniently surrender expired, unwanted, or unused pharmaceutical controlled substances and other medications. For more information, [click here](#) or call 623-930-2571.

Contact Councilmember Alvarez

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